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SOWERBY BRIDGE
Urban District Council

50

Annual
REPORT

of the



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
(N. E. GORDON, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.)

and the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
(Wm. E. FOSTER, A.M.I.P.H.E., M.P.H.I.A.)

for the Year

1959

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SOWERBY BRIDGE
Urban District Council

Annual
R E P O R T

of the

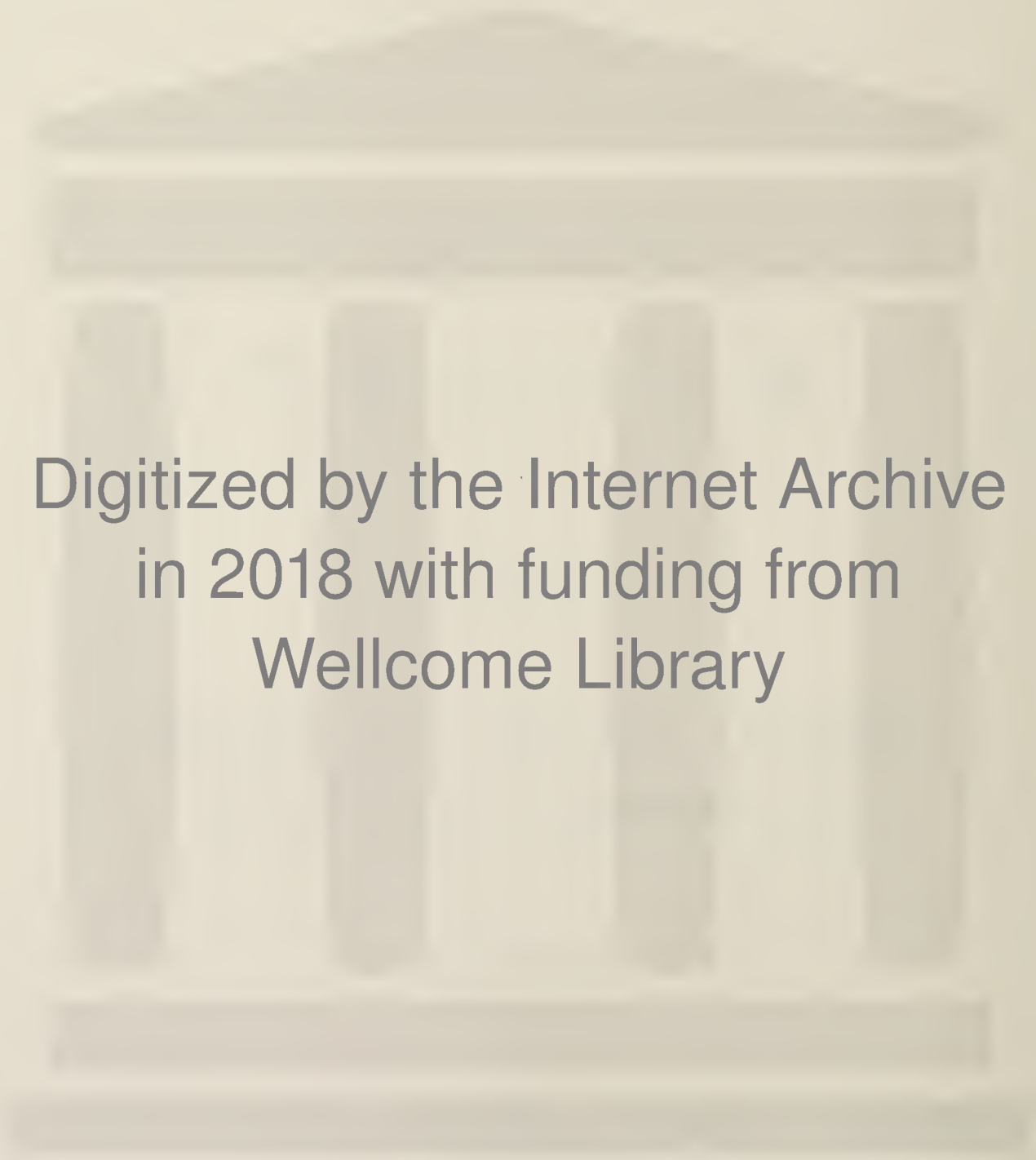
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
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URBAN DISTRICT OF SOWERBY BRIDGE

1959-60

Chairman of the Council:

Councillor A. BUTTERWORTH, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Council:

Councillor H. HAIGH

Members of the Council:

Coun. Mrs. E. Bagshaw

" G.A. Benbow, J.P.

" E.R. Berry

" J.C. Bower

" K. Burke

" J. Clegg

" W. Crossfield, J.P.

" E. English

" L.E. Godfrey

" W. Greenwood, J.P.

" C. Grenshaw

Coun. W. Hoyle

" Miss E. Judson

" E. Lumb, J.P.

" C.W. Maude, J.P.

" W.L. Parker

" A. Pettengell

" N. Sutcliffe

" W.F. Turner

" C. Uttley

" A. Wilcock

" Miss L. Wilson

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Members of the Health Committee:

Coun. G.A. Benbow, J.P. (Chairman)

" A. Pettengell (Vice-Chairman)

" E.R. Berry

" J.C. Bower

" K. Burke

" W. Greenwood, J.P.

" H. Haigh

" W. Hoyle

" Miss L. Wilson

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Sowerby Bridge U.D.C.

Medical Officer of Health:

NORMAN E. GORDON, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

GLADYS V. BRADSHAW, M.B., B.S., D.Obst., R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

W.E. FOSTER, A.M.I.P.H.E., M.P.H.I.A.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

J. GOULDEN, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.

West Riding County Council

Preventive Medical Services: Health Division 19

Staff with duties in the Sowerby Bridge District:-

Divisional Medical Officer:

As above (M.O.H.)

Senior Assistant County Medical Officer:

+ GLADYS V. BRADSHAW, M.B., B.S., D.Obst., R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Assistant County Medical Officer, and Medical Officer to Sowerby Bridge
Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics:

+ D.S. PICKUP, L.M.S.S.A., M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (resigned 9.8.59)
+ C. CRAIG, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H. (commenced 1.12.59)

Health Visitors:

E.B. NOWERS, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.S.C.N. (resigned 15.2.59)
+ M.O. FORRESTER, S.R.N., S.C.M.
M. SOUTHWELL, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Tuberculosis Health Visitor:

+ B.G. NICHOLL, S.R.N.

Mental Health Social Worker:

+ E.C. WROE, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.M.N., H.V.

Mental Health Home Teacher (Qualified):

+ Mrs. M.H. GRAHAM, B.A. (resigned 10.8.59)

Midwives:

+ M. HOLDEN, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Relief Midwife for whole Divisional Area)
M. BAMFORTH, S.R.N., S.C.M. (resigned 31.10.59)
+ P. WRIGHT, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N. (resigned 31.10.59)

Home Nurses:

A. HOWARTH, S.R.N., S.C.M.
A. KLEINDIENST, S.R.N., R.F.N., Queen's Nurse
+ A.M. SCHOLLICK, S.R.N., S.C.M., Queen's Nurse
+ K. BOTTOMLEY, S.R.N.
+ E.S. SIDDALL, S.R.N., S.C.M., Queen's Nurse (Relief Home Nurse for whole Divisional Area)

+ Also have duties in other parts of this Division.

Clerical Staff:-

Senior Divisional Clerk:

H. MARSHALL, A.C.I.S.

Deputy Senior Divisional Clerk:

Miss J. SUTCLIFFE

Clerks:

Miss P. JACKSON
Mrs. M. REDFERN
Mrs. J.E. SUTCLIFFE
Miss B. MARSHALL
Miss M.J. CROWTHER
T. WALTON
R. WILD
Miss C. SHANN
Miss E.V. SAGAR (commenced 27.7.59)

Halifax Area Hospitals Management Committee

Consultant Staff

Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon:

W.M.S. IRNSIDE, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S. (Edin.), F.A.C.C.P.

Chest Physician:

BERTRAM MANN, B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H.

Ophthalmic Surgeon:

S. ROBERTSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S.

Orthopaedic Surgeon:

G. HYMAN, M.B., F.R.C.S.

Abraham Ormerod Medical Centre,
Todmorden.

November, 1960.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Thirteenth Annual Report since the inception of the scheme of Divisional Health Administration.

Under the Divisional Health Scheme your Medical Officer of Health is also Divisional Medical Officer for the West Riding County Council's local health services and has similar functions in the Borough of Todmorden, the Urban Districts of Ripponden and Hebden Royd, and the Rural District of Hepton. The scheme has led to a closer integration of local authority health services.

The birth rate in Sowerby Bridge in 1959 was 17.2, the highest recorded for some years. The death rate at 15.0 was also at a high level and is an indication of the large proportion of elderly persons in the district. Despite the fact that there has been an excess of births over deaths each year for the past seven years, there has been a continued decline in the estimated population, which has now dropped below 18,000 for the first time.

The infant mortality rate is again above average, although there has been some improvement as compared with the previous year. It is significant that of the 11 infants dying under the age of 1 year, 8 were born to families occupying houses which are, or are of a type which ought to be, in proposed clearance areas. It is also significant that the majority of these infants died from prematurity and were the first children of young couples. There is the possibility that there may be some relationship between the high wastage of infant life locally and the tendency for couples to marry at ever earlier ages, to struggle to make a sub-standard house into a reasonably comfortable home and the necessity for a wife to continue in employment in a district where wages are relatively low. There is provision for priority points to be granted to persons who require to be re-housed because of ill health and disability. It would appear that a case could also be made for preventing the loss of infant life by improving the standard of accommodation available for newly-weds.

Demands upon the Home Help Service continue to increase and considerably more hours were worked in 1959 than in the previous year. The service was almost entirely devoted to assisting the aged and chronic sick, but owing to difficulty in securing suitable workers there were times when help had to be curtailed. This was particularly the case when a maternity booking occurred, as full time domestic assistance is then required and the only way to provide such help is to deprive old people of their regular workers. Complaints about the service are invariably from those who lose their home help for a temporary period because of illness or an emergency transfer but, unfortunately, this cannot be avoided unless

one has some reserve of labour available, which is impossible in this district at present.

There were no significant outbreaks of infectious disease in Sowerby Bridge in 1959. It is reassuring to observe that there is still a good response to the diphtheria immunisation scheme, despite the fact that the parents of today are not familiar with the devastating effects of this disease. Inoculation against diphtheria, which is usually combined with vaccination against whooping cough and tetanus, is readily available at the clinics and from family doctors. It is offered to every child in the first year of life and again on entering school. Last year 859 Sowerby Bridge children were inoculated and altogether almost 70% of the child population had been protected, but it is a matter of concern that only half are inoculated in babyhood.

The work of the Public Health Department continues to increase with the introduction of new legislation, as Parliament acknowledges that the public has a right to enjoy a decent standard of housing, to food which has been distributed and served in a hygienic manner, to drink from a wholesome supply of water and to breathe an atmosphere which is not destructive to human tissues. These aspects are ably dealt with in Mr. Foster's contribution to this report, a most comprehensive account of the work carried out by his staff. I should like to record my appreciation of the assistance most willingly given by both our Inspectors, frequently in their own leisure time, to assist a neighbouring Authority which for some months was without the services of its Public Health Inspector on account of ill health.

The summer of 1959 was one which will be long remembered for its perfect weather. However, amongst the hillside communities around Sowerby Bridge it will also be remembered for the prolonged and serious drought as, one by one, the springs and wells feeding the private water supplies dried up and the streams no longer diluted the household wastes which they received and became most offensive. A detailed survey of the hundreds of private water supplies in the district was carried out and a report submitted to the Council with the result that a policy of systematic extension of the public water supply to these outlying districts has been adopted.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the members of the Council for their consideration, patience and co-operation, and to thank Mr. Foster, Public Health Inspector, for his kindness and efforts to give me the sanitary circumstances of the area, and indeed to all your officials with whom I made contacts, personal and official.

I am, yours faithfully,

N.E. GORDON, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I

Vital Statistics

STATISTICS

Area (Census 1951)	.. .. .	5,763 acres
Population, Registrar-General's estimate of		
Resident Population, mid-1959	.. .. .	17,940
Population (Census 1951)	.. .. .	18,770
Number of dwelling-houses	.. .. .	6,767
Rateable Value (1.4.59)	.. .. .	£151,398
Product of a Penny Rate (year 1959-60)	.. .. .	£592

Summary of Vital Statistics

	Total	M	F		
Live Births	308	149	159	Birth Rate per 1,000 population:	17.2
Still Births	7	3	4		
Total Live & Still Births	315	152	163	Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births:	22.2
Deaths of Infants				Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births:	
Under 1 year (total)	11	5	6	total	35.7
Under 1 year (legitimate)	11	5	6	legitimate	35.7
Under 1 year (illegitimate)	-	-	-	illegitimate	-
Under 4 weeks	10	4	6	Neo-natal mortality rate	32.5
Illegitimate Live Births	11	6	5	Percentage of total live births:	3.57
Maternal Deaths (associated with pregnancy or child-birth)	-	-	-	Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:	-
All Deaths	269	113	156	Death Rate per 1,000 population:	15.0

CAUSES OF DEATH IN SOWERBY BRIDGE U.D.

									1958		1959	
									M	F	M	F
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-	-	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal Infections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	1	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
8.	Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases				..	..	..	..	-	-	-	1
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	1	5	5
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus			..	..	..	..	..	2	-	4	-
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	3	-	3
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	2	-	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms			..	..	..	..		12	16	10	10
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	1
16.	Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	-	3
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system			..	..	..	..	..	16	26	12	30
18.	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	37	24	33	29
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	2	1
20.	Other heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	20	15	33
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	3	3	3
22.	Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	3
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	6	4	5
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	2	4	5
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system			..	..	..	..	..	3	-	-	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum			..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea			..	..	..	..	..	1	-	-	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	-	1	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases			..	..	..	..		15	8	10	11
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	2	2
34.	All other accidents	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	3	6
35.	Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	1	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-	-
									142	128	113	156

Principal Vital Statistics for the year 1959

Based on Registrar General's Figures

	Sowerby Bridge U.D.	Rippon- den U.D.	Hebden Royd U.D.	Hepton R.D.	Todmor- den M.B.	Aggregate W. Riding U.D.	W. Riding Admin. County	England and Wales (Provisional Figures)
BIRTH RATE:- (per 1,000 estimated population)	17.2	12.9	13.6	11.0	12.8	16.1	16.5	16.5
DEATH RATES:- (All per 1,000 estimated home population)								
All Causes	15.0	10.0	14.7	11.8	15.2	12.4	11.6	11.6
Infective and parasitic diseases +	0.06	-	-	-	-	0.04	0.04	+ +
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	0.06	-	0.10	-	0.06	0.08	0.07	0.08
Other forms of tuberculosis	-	-	0.10	-	-	0.01	0.01	0.01
Cancer	2.17	1.39	2.18	2.00	2.17	2.12	1.98 ⁹	2.14
Vascular lesions of nervous system	2.34	1.79	2.08	1.50	1.80 ⁹	1.96	1.81	+ +
Heart and circulatory diseases †	6.63	4.78	6.96	5.50	5.91	4.68	4.31	+ +
Respiratory Diseases:- (excluding tuberculosis of respiratory system)	1.34	0.40	1.35	1.75	2.45	1.55	1.44	+ +
INFANT MORTALITY:- (Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	35.7	15.4	15.3	-	21.8	24.0	24.0	22.0
MATERNAL MORTALITY:- (Deaths of mothers associated with pregnancy or childbirth per 1,000 live and still-births)	-	-	-	-	-	0.41	0.36	0.38

+ Combined death rate from syphilitic diseases, diphtheria, whooping cough, meningococcal infections, acute poliomyelitis, measles and other infective and parasitic diseases (items 3 - 9 incl. on page 8).

† Combined death rate from heart disease and other diseases of the circulatory system (items 18 - 21 incl. on page 8).

// Combined death rate from influenza, pneumonia, bronchitis and other respiratory diseases, excluding tuberculosis of the respiratory system (items 22 - 25 incl. on page 8).

SECTION II

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

(A) Hospitals

There is no hospital in Sowerby Bridge. Patients requiring hospital treatment are referred as a rule to hospitals under the administration of the Halifax Area Hospitals Management Committee (National Health Service). Included in this group are the Halifax General Hospital, Royal Halifax Infirmary, St. John's Hospital (for the aged and chronic sick), Northowram Hall Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Todmorden Fielden Hospital (for long stay medical cases in children) and Todmorden Stansfield View Hospital (for mental defectives).

Maternity beds are only available at the Halifax General Hospital. Priority in booking is given to abnormal cases, mothers expecting their first child, and mothers with unsatisfactory home conditions.

Special hospitals (e.g. Mental Hospitals, special Orthopaedic Hospitals, Tuberculosis Sanatoria, etc.) outside the Halifax area are available when required; they are situated in various parts of the so-called "Leeds Hospitals Region" which in fact extends into all three Ridings.

(B) Ambulance Service

The County Ambulance Service (Divisional Depot at Brighouse - telephone Brighouse 840) covers this district. Arrangements also exist with the Halifax County Borough Health Department for the use of their ambulances for the transfer of patients to and from the hospitals in Halifax.

(C) Laboratory Facilities

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Services (directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health) at laboratories in Wakefield and Bradford, and by the Regional Blood Transfusion Service at Leeds.

(D) Issue of Anti-Toxin, etc.

Supplies of diphtheria and tetanus anti-toxin are available at the Northowram Hall Hospital and the Royal Halifax Infirmary for issue to medical practitioners requiring them. By arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board supplies of tetanus anti-toxin are also kept at the Divisional Health Office, The Medical Centre, Todmorden, for the use of local medical practitioners in the Division.

A supply of re-agents for diphtheria and whooping cough immunisation is also available free of charge to private practitioners who have undertaken to participate in the West Riding County Council's schemes of immunisation. Poliomyelitis vaccine is also issued, as available, in accordance with the approved arrangements.

SECTION III

W.R.C.C. PREVENTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

(A) Clinics and Treatment Centres

Infant Welfare:

Allan House, Sowerby Bridge	Thursdays)	
The Institute, Luddenden Foot	Fridays)	
)	
		)	2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal:

Allan House, Sowerby Bridge	Mondays)	
The Institute, Luddenden Foot	Alternate)	
	Fridays	)	10 a.m. to 12 noon

School Clinics:

Allan House, Sowerby Bridge			
(a) Minor Ailments	Mondays		10 a.m. to 12 noon
(b) Ophthalmic	As required)	
(c) Ear, Nose and Throat	As required)	
(d) Artificial Sunlight	Tuesdays	)	by appointment
	Fridays)	

Smallpox Vaccination:

Diphtheria Immunisation:

Whooping-Cough Immunisation:

Poliomyelitis Vaccination:

Allan House, Sowerby Bridge

The Institute, Luddenden Foot

At any Minor Ailments or Welfare Clinic, by arrangement with Medical Officer.

(B) Care of Mothers and Young Children

Sowerby Bridge and Luddenden Foot Ante-Natal Clinics:

Number of expectant mothers attending during the year	..	..	..	..	140
Total number of attendances	..	..	..	..	671

Child Welfare Clinics:

Total number of children who attended during the year	..	..	..	..	671
Total number of attendances	..	..	..	..	4,414

Home Visiting of Infants:

Total number of live births to Sowerby Bridge mothers	..	..	..	..	308
Number of first visits to children under 1 year	..	..	..	..	277
Total number of visits to children under 1 year	..	..	..	..	1,157
Total number of visits to children aged 1-2 years	..	..	..	..	569
Total number of visits to children aged 2-5 years	..	..	..	..	835

Provision of Welfare Foods, etc.:

National dried milk, cod liver oil, orange juice, etc., are distributed at the Centres, and a variety of brands of dried milk and other infant foods are also sold at the Child Welfare Centres for the convenience of mothers.

Care of Premature Infants:

Special equipment and nursing staff is available for use in the home in cases requiring them.

Provision of Maternity Outfits:

These are provided free to mothers preparing for confinement in their own homes.

(C) Professional Nursing in the Home

The County Council are responsible for the home nursing and midwifery services in Sowerby Bridge. There were four full-time Home Nurses and three full-time Midwives employed in 1959. Two of the Home Nurses and two Midwives, however, did not work wholly in the Sowerby Bridge area, also having duties in other parts of the Divisional Area.

Midwifery Service:

Number of home confinements	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	91
Number of hospital confinements	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	217

The Sowerby Bridge midwives are trained in the administration of gas and air analgesia and are provided with the necessary equipment. Analgesia is available to all mothers desiring it subject to satisfactory medical examination by a doctor.

(D) Health Visiting

The duties of the Health Visitor are combined with those of School Nurse. In pursuance of the National Health Service Act the scope of this service includes home visiting for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of children, and persons (including adults) suffering from illness, and of expectant and nursing mothers. The Health Visitor also gives advice in the home as to measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection.

(E) Home Helps

The recruitment of suitable women to be Home Helps again proved to be difficult. During 1959, 78 cases were attended by Home Helps as compared with 81 cases the previous year, and the total number of hours worked was 10,672.

In accordance with the National Health Service Act, the County Council provides domestic help for households "where such help is required owing to the presence of any person who is ill, lying-in, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age."

Of the 78 cases attended in 1959, Home Helps were provided for the following reasons:-
8 maternity and 70 chronic sick.

(F) Care and After Care

Special provisions are in operation for the care and after care of patients suffering from tuberculosis, mental illness or defect, venereal disease, and other illnesses.

(G) School Health Service

Number of schools in district	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Number of children in attendance at school at end of 1959	..	..							2,937
Number of children examined at school during 1959	..	..	..	..					747
this figure being made up as follows:-									
Routine examinations	..	..	..	..	..				578
Re-examinations	..	..	..	..	..	..			169
Number of children referred for treatment	..	..	..	..	..				41

(H) Immunisation and Vaccination

In accordance with the National Health Service Act, immunisation against diphtheria and whooping-cough and vaccination against smallpox may be done either at the clinic or by the family doctor.

Diphtheria Immunisation

Number of children in Sowerby Bridge who had completed a full course of Diphtheria Immunisation, 1959

Age	0-1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Began and completed Injections 1959	113	28	4	5	4	22	26	24	21	10	10	3	-	-	-
Total 270															

Immunised in previous years re-treated 1959	-	-	-	1	2	84	84	70	66	78	121	83	-	-	-
Total 589															

(ii) Immunisation in relation to child population

Number of children in Sowerby Bridge who had completed a full course of Diphtheria Immunisation at any time to 31.12.59

Age at 31.12.59 i.e. born in year	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	Total under 15
No. immunised	30	116	151	152	161	1,126	1,282	3,018

Whooping-cough Immunisation

Number of children in Sowerby Bridge who completed a full course of Whooping-cough Immunisation, 1959

Age at final injection	Under 6 months	6 months to 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	Over 4 years	Total
No. immunised	1	112	28	3	3	3	150

(ii) Immunisation in relation to child population

Number of children at 31st December, 1959, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date.

Age 31.12.59 i.e. born in year	Under 1 1959	1 1958	2 1957	3 1956	4 1955	5 - 9 1950-54	10 - 14 1945-49	Total
No. immunised	30	99	163	145	119	346	18	920

During the year there were 20 notified cases of whooping-cough. None of the children concerned had completed the full course of immunisation.

Vaccination against Smallpox, 1959

165 people were vaccinated against smallpox during the year, 119 of whom were children under the age of one year. Many of the children were vaccinated at the Child Welfare Centres at Sowerby Bridge and Luddenden Foot.

SECTION IV

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Summary of Notifications received in year 1959

Disease	Total cases notified
Scarlet fever	12
Whooping-cough	20
Acute Poliomyelitis	-
Measles	193
Diphtheria	-
Dysentery	4
Meningococcal infection	1
Acute pneumonia	16
Smallpox	-
Acute encephalitis	-
Enteric or typhoid fever	-
Paratyphoid fevers	-
Erysipelas	-
Food poisoning	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-
Ophthalmic neonatorum	-
Pulmonary tuberculosis	8
Other forms of tuberculosis	2
	<hr/>
	256

Tuberculosis

The following table gives at a glance the position regarding tuberculosis
in Sowerby Bridge in 1959

	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Totals
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	
No. on Register on 1st Jan. 1959 ..	66	55	121	13	11	24	145
No. first notified during 1959 ..	5	3	8	2	-	2	10
No. of cases restored to register ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
No. of cases added to register other than by notification	3	1	4	1	-	1	5
No. removed from register during 1959:-							
(a) Died	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
(b) Removed from district	3	3	6	1	-	1	7
(c) Recovered	4	5	9	-	-	-	9
No. remaining on Register 31.12.59	67	50	117	15	11	26	143

REPORT

of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the year ending 31st December 1959

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee
of the Urban District of Sowerby Bridge

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on (a) the sanitary conditions in the area, (b) housing conditions including overcrowding, (c) the inspection and supervision of food, for the year ending 31st December 1959, and for the cleansing services for the year ending 31st March 1960.

The Annual Report of the Public Health Department, dealing with environmental hygiene, endeavours to set down in comparative detail the work which has been completed by the Public Health Inspectors during the year. The activities and work of the Department cannot be set down simply as hard facts, such as so many interviews given, so many visits made, so many inspections and investigations completed. Neither could it be suggested that statistics and tables, essential though they may be, would give a true picture of the wide range of duties which come within the orbit of the Department. These duties cover an ever increasing field of public health work, and hardly a year passes without new Acts of Parliament, Amendments and Orders coming into force, having a direct bearing upon and extending the work of the Department.

Much of the work, especially that on the welfare side, passes comparatively unnoticed and receives little or no attention, but this is a very important side of the Department and never a week passes without assistance and guidance being sought on the many problems that arise in connection with housing, public health, food hygiene, public cleansing, etc., etc.

In the report, as in previous years, every effort has been made to deal with each item under a separate heading, setting out the work completed and any progress made. In the following report the first item is that of water supplies. This is a very important subject and over the years there has been a very serious effort made to improve the supplies of the district. Working in close co-operation with the Water Committee, much has been achieved, but with the drought of 1958 serious deficiencies in the private supplies came to light.

As a result of this, a detailed survey of these supplies was undertaken, which showed that more than 23%, or some 1,549 houses, were served by private supplies, and the total

number of supplies covering the whole area was in the region of 276. The supplies could be divided into those serving 15 or more houses, and the small supplies serving only a very few. Of the former there were 39 supplies covering 978 houses, and of the latter there were 237 catering for 571 properties. The majority of these are spring supplies, and whilst many have been quite well maintained, others have been badly neglected, leaving them open to serious pollution. Thus, a considerable number of houses served by these spring supplies have either an unwholesome or an insufficient supply of water.

This important matter has received careful consideration by the Finance, Water and Public Health Committees and a policy has been laid down for dealing systematically with the unsatisfactory supplies. In the meantime those supplies which are polluted are as far as possible being safeguarded. The provision of an adequate and wholesome supply of water should be provided to every house, for without this basic need further improvement of the sanitary conditions is almost impossible.

Closely allied to water supplies is the provision of an adequate sewer. It is pleasing to note that the provision of a sewer in the Norland area is now well under way, which will result in the improvement of the sanitary accommodation in this part of the area, a part of the district where the pail accommodation is much in evidence.

The table under Public Cleansing, setting out the various types of sanitary accommodation in the area is interesting. It again shows a decrease in the number of pails, and only one privy remains within the Urban area. The objectionable work in the Department of cleansing this type of accommodation came in for very serious consideration, with the result that a dual purpose vehicle was designed in the Department to facilitate this work. The vehicle was eventually built and in operation has proved itself so efficient that many adjoining Authorities have adopted this type of vehicle for pail collection. Many enquiries have also been made from Authorities in other parts of the country.

The disadvantage in writing an Annual Report is that much of the work outlined is past history. In referring to clean air, the progress report on the year's work is quite favourable, but it is unfortunate that subsequently the efforts of the Department ended in a general postponement of the programme.

Work on clean air continued throughout the year, but from July onwards, after the smoke recording station had been set up in Crow Wood Park, more and more time was devoted to this work. It was pleasing to note the Council's approval of the programme to be submitted to the Ministry for the completion of Smoke Control throughout the entire district by 1973; the first smoke control area as a pilot scheme to be surveyed for consideration early in 1960. Prior to the domestic survey being carried out, an industrial survey was undertaken and whilst much requires to be done in the industrial field, it was noted that the industrialists generally speaking were fully aware of the requirements under the Act, and in many cases plans were well advanced for the re-construction, overhaul or renewal of existing boiler plant.

The railway sheds present a problem, but here again as the re-organisation of the railways takes shape, so this source of pollution to our atmosphere will slowly disappear.

According to the Clean Air Act the deadline for factories is 1963. The Sowerby Bridge programme for all domestic chimneys is 1973. This is mentioned by reason of the fact that it

is suggested that factories and railways should be dealt with before any start is made on the domestic problem. To my mind there is no sound reason why these two should not travel side by side for a couple of years. To delay the domestic problem is to delay without doubt the most important side of this programme.

The programme of smoke control will largely depend upon the technical staff available, and this important phase of public health work will have to take its place along with the other important duties such as housing, food hygiene, public health work including water supplies, conversions, public cleansing, etc., etc. With two qualified Inspectors available the progress will not be rapid.

Smoke control is one of the most important subjects with which we have had to deal for some considerable time. Much criticism has been levelled at the Clean Air Act, which may have its shortcomings, but nevertheless it is a piece of legislation that has been required for a long time. It gives us the opportunity, and this must not be lost, to plan experiments and to create smoke control areas and so remove much of the pollution from the atmosphere of our towns. Have we, because of our long associations with our town, to accept its substandard housing, its unsatisfactory water supplies, its bad sanitary arrangements? Indeed not; we have done and are doing something about it, and yet we appear to accept as part of our life the fouling of the atmosphere and all that goes with it; the misery caused by the respiratory troubles, a loss in working time, the soiling and spoiling of our furnishings, the decay of our buildings and the stunted growth of our vegetation. The price we pay is heavy indeed.

The returns from our own smoke recording station have been most illuminating, and the tables here are worthy of note. The concentration of smoke in the summer months, with the factory chimneys working normally, is only a fraction of the concentration recorded during the colder periods with the domestic chimneys emitting their pollutants both day and night. The domestic smoke problem is an extremely delicate and difficult one. The survey which was continuing at the year end in connection with the establishment of smoke control brought to light many problems, but the general situation and reaction could be summed up as follows. The older people were not really interested, they did not want disturbing, they were content to continue as they were. The not so old showed interest and were prepared to give it a trial, but those most interested and wanting additional information were the younger people. It was these people who were trying oil heating, experimenting with an all electric house, gas heating, and also with the solid smokeless fuels in the open grate, and generally were expressing satisfaction with the results.

It is essential that more information be given to everyone about this important subject, and although the present position seems to be in doubt, I have no doubts whatsoever for the future of smoke control. Those people who have already tried the alternative ways of heating have almost without exception reached one conclusion. It is more convenient, it is cleaner and it is more efficient. The success of the operation of smoke control will not only depend upon the public support, but also upon the people's understanding of the problems involved and their readiness to co-operate in these very important measures.

Housing is another very difficult problem, but from the report it can be seen that the clearance of many of our unhealthy areas is proceeding. The 5-year programme, of which 4 years have already passed, is behind schedule. The number of houses to be dealt with in

the first 5-year period to 1960 was to be 185, but up to the present time only 79 have been dealt with. All these have been small areas of less than 15 houses. If the district is to be improved, then many of our larger sites covered by numbers of substandard and Type 1 back-to-back houses must be cleared and re-developed if progress is to be made. It is sincerely hoped that progress in this direction will be made during the coming year.

During the year it was possible once again to make arrangements for members of the Council and Public Health Committee to visit one of the largest and most up-to-date food factories in the country. The visit proved both interesting and instructive, and highlighted the careful planning and tremendous expense that is put into the producing of clean food in full compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations. The visit emphasised the need for food hygiene in the retail shops in order that this very high standard of production and cleanliness can be maintained right up to the customer receiving the foods.

In conclusion may I record my appreciation of the help which has been given by the Chairman, Councillor G.A. Benbow, J.P., C.C., and the members of the Public Health Committee for their assistance in the work of the Department. The valuable assistance which has so readily been given by Dr. Gordon, Medical Officer of Health is appreciated. My thanks are also due to the thorough manner in which the Staff of the Department have worked, especially Mr. J. Goulden, Additional Public Health Inspector, the Clerical Staff and the Foreman of the Cleansing Department, together with the employees who have carried out the objectionable work of cleansing and disposal of refuse in a most efficient manner.

In addition I should like to thank all the Officials of the Council who have so kindly co-operated in supplying general information for this report.

I remain, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours respectfully,

W.E. FOSTER, A.M.I.P.H.E., M.P.H.I.A.

Senior Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLIES

Public Supply

The Halifax Corporation supply the majority of water throughout the Urban area, this being distributed throughout the district by the Local Authority. The water has proved completely satisfactory upon both bacteriological and chemical examination.

In the Norland area, however, the public supply is owned and distributed by the Urban District Council, whilst in the Mill Bank and Triangle districts the water is supplied from Ripponden U.D.C. These public supplies have also given complete satisfaction, both chemically and bacteriologically, and further samples have been taken for plumbo solvency, which upon examination have shown no trace whatsoever of lead absorption.

The progress of extending the water mains has continued, and during the year the following extensions have been undertaken:-

- (1) Extension of 3" main to Rose Grove, Luddenden Foot.
- (2) Extension of 3" main to cover the properties at Towngate, Sowerby.
- (3) Extension of the Sowerby Housing Estate to Rooley Heights and Rooley Lane.
- (4) Extension of the 3" main to cover 66 properties at Boulderclough.

At the end of the year other schemes were also under consideration.

Private Supplies

The survey of private water supplies, which is the subject of a special report, can be summed up in the following table, which gives details of the properties and area of supply.

District	Large Supplies	No. of Houses	Small Supplies	No. of Houses	Total No. of Houses
Luddenden Foot	12	440	42	102	542
Midgley	13	270	42	103	373
Sowerby	5	98	60	120	218
Mill Bank and Triangle ..	6	133	50	140	273
Norland	3	37	43	106	143
	39	978	237	571	1,549

Total No. of Houses and Agricultural Establishments 6,747
No. on Private Supply 1,549 or 23% approximately
No. on Public Supply 5,198 or 77% approximately

The total number of samples obtained during the survey from the private supplies was 218, details of which are set down as follows.

District	Bacteriological Examination		
	Sat.	U/Sat.	Total
Luddenden Foot	22	43	65
Midgley	8	28	36
Triangle	13	33	46
Sowerby	14	32	46
Norland	17	5	22
Sowerby Bridge	2	1	3
Sowerby Bridge Public Supply	3	1	4
Norland Public Supply	3	-	3
Totals ..	82	143	225

The unsatisfactory samples of water appear to be high, but when one also takes into consideration the number of supplies which were bacteriologically satisfactory but were insufficient, the number of unsatisfactory supplies is actually increased. From the survey, in a considerable number of instances, it was found that the pollution and insufficiency was due to the lack of maintenance.

A considerable amount of planning and re-construction of private water supplies where the provision of the public supply was considered impracticable has taken place, with satisfactory results. Unfortunately, with so many unknown factors, no complete guarantee of wholesomeness and sufficiency can be given. Accordingly the supplies must be examined periodically.

It is essential that every effort be made to make sure that the water supply throughout the Urban area is both suitable and sufficient, and with this in mind a Joint Committee has been set up to deal with the priorities and to extend the main to cover the maximum number of properties in the most needed areas. It will, of course, be completely impracticable to extend the main a considerable distance to cover one or two houses, and from the survey it has been observed that dealing firstly with the 237 small private supplies which serve 571 houses, many of these are serving farms and very small blocks of property. They are sited high on the hill-sides, many above the areas of pollution. Others lower down the hillside may be dealt with jointly with other larger schemes. The number of complaints from the householders in these areas is very few indeed.

Dealing with the larger private supplies which are at present satisfactory or can be made satisfactory, these total 13 and serve 473 houses. In addition to this there are 144 houses

which are served by 5 private supplies, which are adjacent to existing mains and could very easily be connected thereto. Of the 361 houses remaining on the larger supplies, which are rather suspicious, unsatisfactory or insufficient, this figure can be broken down into properties where (a) there is a distinct possibility of water main coverage, and here there are some 235 houses fed by 7 supplies; whilst there are the properties (b) where the extension of the main appears to be difficult or impracticable, and here there are 126 houses.

As a result of the survey and the joint meetings, a definite policy has now been resolved, and it is pleasing to note that the houses on private water supplies in close proximity to water mains will be called upon to connect to the main, and in other instances the main is to be extended in order that the houses may be connected thereto.

One district which in itself depends on several private water supplies and covers between 40 and 50 houses, is the Hubberton area. I feel that before any further progress can be made, these private supplies should be discontinued, and efforts made to provide the Town's water supply at the earliest possible opportunity. The Department has no desire to condemn private water supplies as such. These have served the rural parts of our district extremely well, and may continue to do so for some considerable time. The concern of the Department is where the larger communities lower down the valley are served with supplies which are unwholesome or insufficient. Such supplies at the source may be quite satisfactory, but due to neglect or circumstances outside the control of the owners, supply pipes or cattle troughs and overflows, or the supply tanks may become a dangerous source of pollution. These conditions only come to light with constant sampling and survey, and accordingly the Authority have a duty under the Act.

It is pleasing to note that the private water supply in the Boulderclough area, which has given anxiety for so long, has now been closed and the Town's main extended to cover the properties in this area. The private water supply at High Lee, where the Town's main was not available, has been re-constructed and is giving satisfaction.

The problem of private water supplies is one which to say the least is fraught with difficulties. It must of necessity be a long term programme, carried out systematically. Fortunately, the private supplies do not appear to have been responsible for any serious epidemic, although many could have been contributory causes of outbreaks of dysentery and intestinal disorders. Great progress has been made during the year, and with a definite policy already laid down, it should not be long before the water supplies throughout the district are both suitable and sufficient.

Drainage and Sewerage

There are approximately 92% of the houses of the district connected to the public sewer, and of the 8% having private drainage 2% appears to be reasonably satisfactory and 6% unsatisfactory. The unsatisfactory drainage is mainly in connection with cesspools and certain land drainage.

During the year a number of schemes have been carried out for the improvement of the sewerage system in the area. During the year the Pinfold Lane sewer was completed, in addition to the general maintenance work on all sewers. At the end of the year the Norland Town sewer

covering the whole of the outer district of Norland had been commenced, and was under construction, whilst schemes waiting for approval included Old Causeway, Walker Lane and Wakefield Road.

The public sewer covers the vast majority of the district, although there are small isolated areas which are not already covered, where private sewerage systems are in operation.

A considerable amount of work has been carried out on the re-construction and the testing of the private drainage systems, and during the year 173 inspections and visits have been made in relation to this work. The water test is applied in all cases. In addition to this work the inspection and re-construction of drainage systems has been undertaken, 47 choked drains having been attended to by the Department under the provisions of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951. No charge has been made for this work.

Due to the general construction and arrangement of houses in the area, a considerable number of inspections have been made in connection with defective drainage systems causing the flooding of cellars in back-to-earth properties. This type of property is quite unique, and is confined to parts of the West Riding. The remedying of such defects usually entails major re-construction.

Sewage Disposal

The Sewage Disposal Works at Milner Royd continue to give satisfaction, but the matter of trade effluent is still under consideration. In the case of the Luddenden Foot Joint Sewerage Board, High Royd, Luddenden Foot, the re-construction and modernisation of these works is well advanced, and it is anticipated that this will be completed in 1960.

Sanitary Accommodation

The improvement of the sanitary conditions has continued during the year with conversion of privies and pails to the water carriage system. The work once again has been completed by negotiation rather than by formal procedure. The contribution of £10 per W.C. is made in all cases where conversions take place. During the year 37 pails have been converted to the water carriage system, together with 5 privies. The progress of conversion has been greater than the previous year, but it is hoped that this will be even further increased as adequate water supplies and sewers are provided.

The percentage of houses on the water carriage system now exceeds 90%. It is pleasing to note that there are no ashpits in the district whatsoever, the number of privies has been reduced to 1, and the number of pail closets reduced to just over 400.

The number and types of accommodation within the Urban District at the end of the year are set down as follows:-

Number of Privies	1
Number of Pail Closets	407
Number of Pedestal W.C.s, including factories and shops	4,616
Number of Trough Closets	21
Number of Waste Water Closets	16
	<hr/>
	5,061
	<hr/>

The pails and privies which are situate in the out-districts are set out as follows:-

District	Pails	Privies
Triangle and Mill Bank	30	-
Sowerby Bridge	17	-
Norland	105	-
Sowerby and Blackwood	99	1
Luddenden Foot	90	-
Midgley and Luddenden	66	-
Totals ..	407	1

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICES

Refuse Collection

The entire cleansing of the district, with the exception of street cleansing, is under the jurisdiction of the Department. Included under this heading is both the collection and disposal of house and trade refuse, together with the cleansing of pails, etc. The collection of waste paper and other salvageable material is also undertaken, a special collection being made at the shops and factories for waste paper.

The vast majority of the district is cleansed on a weekly principle, and only those properties in the outer district are placed on a fortnightly basis. This amounts to no more than 10% of the properties.

There has been no real difficulty in recruiting labour. This may be due to the fact that there has been very little turnover, which has led to the greater efficiency in the

Department and less difficulty in keeping the rounds completely up to date. The average number of bins emptied weekly is approximately 5,000, and works out at approximately 168 bins per man per day. This, I consider, is a very high average, as many of the properties especially on the estates have long paths, and some of the older properties have many steps to be negotiated. To offset this there are a considerable number of properties where the bins are very close at hand.

The employees, generally speaking, have worked very conscientiously, but the financial return for this type of work in my opinion is low, but I consider that the reason for the low turnover of employment in the Department has been due to a large extent to the salvage bonus which is paid twice per year.

The collection of pails, which is on a weekly basis, has always given cause for concern. The work is very objectionable and in view of the situation of this type of sanitary accommodation arrangements are made for the dual collection of pails and bins. This, of course, necessitates a tank being placed within the vehicle, which restricts its capacity and also creates difficulties in emptying the pails into the tank, due to the additional height in the loading line. As the vehicle was due for replacement, a dual type collecting vehicle was designed in the Department, a special tank being mounted directly on the chassis between the driver's cab and the refuse collecting body. A special type of valve has been incorporated, and the loading line is identical with the loading line of the refuse body.

Since this new vehicle has been put into operation the work has been carried out more expeditiously and is much less objectionable. The contents are discharged via a hose directly into the manhole at pre-selected points. The capacity of the tank is between 150 and 200 gallons and the capacity of the body, which is completely unrestricted, is 7 cu.yds.

The work completed by the vehicles operated by the Department is set out in the following table:-

Vehicle	Ashbins	Pails	Loads	Tons	Cwts.
Bedford No. 7	6,305	-	345	301	-
Bedford No. 8	10,205	11,554	735	657	10
S. & D. No. 9	107,627	-	519	1,553	-
S. & D. No. 10	109,112	-	546	1,631	-
Karrier No. 11	31,079	-	999	943	-
Karrier No. 12	6,384	14,953	434	436	-
Totals ..	270,712	26,507	3,578	5,521	10

Transport

The details of the transport operated by the Department are set out as follows:-

No.	Make	Year of Purchase	Capacity	Service
8	Bedford	1949	7 cu.yds.	Ashbins
9	S. & D. Rear F. & A. Loader	1951	18 cu.yds.	Ashbins
10	S. & D. Rear F. & A. Loader	1954	18 cu.yds.	Ashbins
11	Karrier Bantam	1956	7 cu.yds.	Ashbins, Salvage, Trade Refuse.
12	Karrier Bantam (with tank)	1959	7 cu.yds. 150/200 gall. tank	Ashbins Pails
	Fordson Tractor	1956	Shovel and Blade	Refuse Disposal

With the acquisition of the new dual purpose Karrier 12, the Bedford 7 has now been scrapped and the Bedford 8, previously used for pail and refuse collection, is being used as a spare vehicle. 5 vehicles are available, but only 4 are operating regularly; the fifth is kept as a spare and is very necessary. Unfortunately, the vehicle being a 7 cu.yd. side vehicle is completely inadequate for use when the fore and aft loading vehicles of 18 to 22 cu.yd. capacity are out of action for repair, or alternatively where it is in use for overspill immediately after holidays or in times of sickness.

Consideration will have to be given in the near future to the purchasing of a dual purpose vehicle, that is one that will be able to operate on the restricted widths of carriage way in the out-districts and yet have sufficient capacity to operate on the larger rounds. Such a vehicle is available and it is hoped that demonstrations will be arranged some time during the coming year.

The Bedford 7, which has been scrapped from refuse collection, is used periodically on the tip for conveying covering material from various parts to form an efficient seal at nights and week-ends.

All the vehicles are still housed at the garage at Mearclough, although as stated in previous reports with the acquisition of the tractor it is becoming increasingly difficult to house them all adequately in the accommodation available.

The vehicles are working satisfactorily and there have been no major breakdowns during the year. The maintenance costs, costs of spares and repairs are reasonable, especially in the light of the amount of stop-start work, the very short journeys and the very difficult district which the vehicles have to cope with.

The arrangement for the cleansing of the district is that 2,500 bins approximately have to be emptied weekly on the two larger rounds. This, in the 44 hours available, gives little or no time for maintenance and accordingly the majority of maintenance on these vehicles is carried out during Saturday mornings.

The transport position at the end of the year was satisfactory.

Accidents

During the year the vehicles operated by the Department, numbering 7, have been involved in 7 accidents. These are set out as follows:-

S. & D. 9	..	..	..	..	1
S. & D. 10	..	..	..	..	1
Karrier 11	..	..	..	..	2
Karrier 12	..	..	..	..	2
Bedford Van	..	..	..	..	1
Tractor ..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Bedford 8	..	..	..	..	Nil

There has been a substantial reduction in the accident rate from 11 to 7. In certain of the accidents the drivers were blameless by reason of the fact that the vehicles were stationary at the time of the accident. In only 3 instances was another vehicle involved, and the other accidents were due to the narrowness and unmade condition of certain out-district roads.

I am quite certain that every possible precaution is taken by the drivers concerned, who are very capable, and when one considers the conditions under which the drivers operate the accident rate is extremely low.

Refuse Accommodation throughout the Area

From the table set out as follows one can see at a glance the improvement of the sanitary conditions throughout the district. As the water supplies and sewers are made available, so the number of pails will decrease. It is hoped that in the very near future the privy ashpit within the Urban District will become completely non-existent.

The following table sets out the present refuse accommodation throughout the district:-

Year	Pail Closets	Privies	Ashbins
1950	655	51	6,197
1951	625	45	6,208
1952	629	30	6,229
1953	529	23	6,314
1954	520	16	6,384
1955	511	13	6,396
1956	497	12	6,410
1957	470	6	6,435
1958	430	4	6,439
1959	407	1	6,448

Municipal Ashbin Scheme

The Municipal Ashbin Scheme has now been working for 10 years, and from the Department's standpoint continues to work very satisfactorily. In 1954 the scheme was altered from a charge upon the rates to a charge per bin issued, as provided for under Sub-section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936 and other amending legislation. The number of bins now being issued is such that the scheme is self-supporting, and in the future as the scheme covers the entire area, so the charge may be eventually discontinued.

There appear to be certain objections to this scheme, but I feel that with a standard container and the method of replacement the cleansing service works much more efficiently than with different types of containers being used, which slow down the work considerably.

The amending legislation allows the Local Authority to increase the bin charge to 7s. 6d. per year, but it has not been found necessary to implement this additional charge. Approximately 60% of the district is now covered by the scheme.

The position, however, is now arising with the scheme being in operation for 10 years that in addition to the provision of bins under the scheme the replacement of bins is becoming necessary, as the reasonable life of any bin is about 10 years. During the year a certain number of bins have been replaced; this will mean that an additional quantity of bins for replacement and issue will be necessary.

Trade Refuse

The trade refuse throughout the district continues to be removed regularly. There has been no alteration during the year in the conditions of collection, one bin of refuse being removed free of charge and each additional bin or part thereof is charged for at the rate of 1s. 0d. A number of shops, greengrocers, fishmongers, etc., have the trade refuse removed three times per week, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, whilst the majority of the trade refuse, including all market refuse, is removed each Saturday.

The quantity of trade refuse removed during the year has amounted to approximately 171 tons, bringing in a return of £334.

Refuse Disposal

All the house refuse is disposed of at Milner Royd on a controlled principle, and this amounts to approximately 100 tons of domestic and trade refuse per week, and some 20 tons of contractors' and other types of refuse.

The site has been very difficult to work, being very steep, but with the mechanical aids available the work has been completed efficiently and satisfactorily. There has been no infestation, neither have there been any tip fires.

The entire refuse is now being tipped in one pre-selected area measuring approximately 150 yds. x 120 yds. and it is hoped to finish this by 1961/62 and reclaim this portion of land.

The Delph, at Luddenden Foot, which has been unsightly for some considerable time has now been filled with domestic refuse properly controlled, and due to the shortage of suitable covering material has been blinded by decomposed refuse from Milner Royd. This area for the most part has now been suitably soiled, the tractor being used for this purpose. The work has been carried out in a very satisfactory manner, and a piece of land has been reclaimed which has been derelict for some considerable time.

The cost of controlling the tip since acquiring the tractor has been greatly reduced, and as the disposal site is now properly organised it is possible to carry out additional work with the tractor and driver in other Departments, where a variety of jobs have been carried out very efficiently. This has resulted in a saving all round, with a consequent reduction in the overall costs of refuse disposal.

Salvage

The amount of waste paper continues to be comparatively high and still exceeds more than 1 ton per 1,000 of the population per month. The total quantity collected and baled was 259 tons approximately, which was a slight decrease on the previous year. The return was also slightly lower, being £2,110, against £2,170 the previous year.

There is no restriction on the amount of waste paper, and with the regular collection from the shops and mills, together with the collection from the houses, it is felt that the maximum quantity of waste paper is being recovered. We still have the people who consider it easier to place the newspaper and cartons in the bins than to save them for salvage recovery. This, of course, adds to the accumulation of salvageable waste at the point of disposal.

The incentive bonus, which is paid twice per year to all employees in the Department, at Christmas and the Wakes Break, has continued through the year and works out at approximately 3d. per hour. It is felt that this has helped considerably in solving the labour problems which existed a few years ago.

The other materials salvaged are extremely low, no special method of segregation being made at the tip face for this material. The total revenue is approximately £2,160. Details of the sale of salvaged materials are set out in the following table:-

Materials Salvaged	T	C	Q	£	s	d
Mixed Waste Paper	147	7	2	1,116	6	-
Fibreboard	49	4	-	467	8	1
Newspapers	52	16	-	432	4	1
Top and Craft Paper	9	8	-	94	-	-
Ferrous Metals	6	1	-	18	14	-
Non-Ferrous Metals		3	2	12	-	8
Rags		14	-	8	6	6
Carpets	1	13	2	6	14	-
String		17	-	3	8	-
Totals ..	268	4	2	2,159	1	4

Since the Council embarked on the collection of salvage in 1939 the total tonnage of all materials collected over this period amounts to 6,061 tons, 8 cwt., 3 qtrs. (of which 3,813 tons, 14 cwt. was waste paper), the total receipts being £31,401. 7. 3d.

Infectious Disease and Disinfection

Enquiries and visits in connection with the spread of infectious disease have been carried out during the year. 33 visits were made in this connection, and details of the visits and investigations are set out in the following table:-

Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	7
Visits re Sonne Dysentery	19
Visits re Scarlet Fever	7
Visits re Poliomyelitis	-
Visits re Disinfection	11

Factories

During the year there was a substantial increase in the number of inspections of the various factories in the district, and these were increased from an average of approximately 10 per year to 41. As a result of these inspections, 30 contraventions were found and of these 19 were remedied.

Details of the factories now on the register, together with defects found, are set out in the following tables:-

Inspections

Factories	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	Written Notices
In which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 enforced by Local Authority	20	7	3
Where Section 7 is enforced	124	34	27
Totals ..	144	41	30

Defects Found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Inadequate Ventilation	2	2	-
Ineffective drainage of floors ..	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:			
(a) Insufficient	4	2	2
(b) Unsuitable or defective	21	14	17
(c) Not separate for sexes	3	1	2
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-
Totals ..	30	19	21

The following table sets out the factories on the register operating in the district at the year end:-

Aerated Waters	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Bedstead Manufacturers		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Beer Bottling	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Boot and Shoe Repairers		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Brass Foundry	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Brass Finishing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Building Operations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Cheese Factory	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cloth Carbonising	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Caravan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Carpet Manufacture	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Diecasting	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Coffee Grinding	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dressmaking, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Dry Cleansing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dyers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Dyeworks	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Electrical Generating and Transforming		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Engineering (light)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Flour Milling	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
French Polishing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Gas Holder	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Joiners and Cabinet Makers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Knitting (machine and garments)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Leather Goods	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Machine Tools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Motor Vehicle Repairs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Monumental Mason	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Plumbing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Plastic Mouldings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Paper Baling and Sorting	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Portable Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pre-cast Concrete	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Printers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pattern Making	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Provender	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Sheet Metal Working	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Sugar Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Slaughterhouses, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Steel Tubular Furniture	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Tailoring	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Textiles - Cotton	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Textiles - Woollen and Worsted	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Textile Machinery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Tin Smith	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

Upholstery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Warehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Wholesale Clothing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Wire Manufacturers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Wool Sorting (including waste, etc.)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6

Outworkers

There were 15 outworkers on the register, all of whom were engaged in textile manufacture or repair. The lists are submitted to the Council under Section 110 of the Factories Act.

Public Swimming Bath

The equipment at the Public Swimming Baths, Princes Hall, has been completely renewed over the past two years, and during the past year the new filters have worked very satisfactorily. The turnover of the bath, which has a capacity of approximately 64,000 gallons, is approximately 4 hours.

There has been an improvement in the condition of the swimming bath water, as the samples indicate. During the year 8 samples of water were taken, 4 for bacteriological and 4 for chemical examination. All these samples were satisfactory.

Nuisances (Part 3, Public Health Act, 1936, except Smoke Nuisances)

The number of inspections for nuisances only, excluding housing inspections, was 67. At the end of 1958 there were 9 informal notices outstanding. During 1959, 37 informal notices were issued and of these, together with those outstanding in 1958, 41 were abated, thus leaving 5 outstanding at the year end. It was not found necessary to serve any statutory notices during the year.

Offensive Trades

There have been no additions to the register of offensive trades during the year, and no applications have been made. The only offensive trades now on the register are Fish Friers, which total 28.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

	Visits
Bakehouses	5
Camping Sites	3
Clean Air Act - General	216
Clean Air Act - Smoke Control Area	136
Clean Air Act - Industrial Plant	49

Clean Air Act - Re-visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	31
Conversions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	109
Re-visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	113
Drainage, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	173
Re-visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	217
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
Flooding, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Hairdressers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Houses let in Lodgings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Interviews	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	195
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	89
Offensive Trades	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Outworkers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Petrol Pump Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Public Cleansing - Administration	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	106
Public Cleansing - Refuse Collection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	199
Public Cleansing - Refuse Disposal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	144
Public Cleansing - Salvage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
Public Conveniences	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Sanitary Accommodation - Defects	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Smoke Observations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Stables, Piggeries and Poultry	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Sunday Trading	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Tents, Vans and Sheds	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Water Courses - Survey	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	115
Water Supplies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	110
														<hr/> 2,278 <hr/>

Clean Air

During the year a substantial amount of time has been devoted to the clean air problem. The Circular 5/59, which was issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, urged Local Authorities to make faster progress in removing the smoke pall from our cities and to accomplish this Local Authorities, especially those in the "black" areas, were asked to consider their smoke problem as a whole and decide on the smoke control areas that were needed in order of priority, and the approximate time likely to complete this work. It was suggested that a phased programme should be prepared for establishing such areas over the next 5 years, and Councils in the "black" areas were asked to inform the Minister by the middle of the year of their proposals.

Sowerby Bridge appeared to be a fringe area and there was some doubt whether it was within the black zones. However, after correspondence had been exchanged between the

Council and the Minister it was decided to submit a return on the lines suggested in the Circular. Several meetings were held with adjoining Authorities prior to formulating a scheme, in order that we could link up with any suggested smoke control area which may be considered on adjoining boundaries.

After serious consideration it was decided that the pilot scheme should be commenced in 1959, and that in the next 5 years to 1964, approximately 260 acres in the more densely populated areas should be dealt with, involving approximately 2,100 houses, excluding the factories, office blocks and other premises. The final objective should be 6,500 dwelling-houses and other premises covering more than 4,000 acres, to be completed by 1975.

The pilot scheme was to be in the Sowerby New Road area, which included all types of dwellings including municipally owned premises, owner-occupied and tenanted houses; the number of houses and other premises to be approximately 260, covering approximately 33 acres.

Prior to the inspections taking place a series of exhibitions was held, outlining the requirements under the Act and dealing with all types of smokeless fuels and approved appliances. The co-operating bodies included the Coal Utilisation Council, North Eastern Gas Board, Solid Smokeless Fuels Federation, and the Yorkshire Electricity Board.

At the beginning of July, immediately prior to the local holidays, a smoke recording station was set up at Crow Wood Park. This was in the form of volumetric apparatus for firstly determining the amount of smoke or suspended matter in the atmosphere, and secondly for recording the concentration of sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere. In addition to this a deposit gauge was used in the centre of the town. This gives an indication of the rainfall, the pH value of the water collected and the weight of deposited matter, both soluble and insoluble. The container is collected monthly and forwarded to the analyst for examination.

In order that reliable information could be obtained over a period, details relative to wind direction, cloud coverage and general weather conditions are taken daily at the Crow Wood Park station. It was most noticeable as the year progressed that the concentration of smoke, suspended matter and sulphur dioxide increased as the weather conditions became colder. The stains on the filter paper were so dark that the 1" clamp was replaced by a 2" clamp during October. The results which were tabulated and shown at the exhibitions were most interesting and the information gained most enlightening.

The conclusions one could draw, without any doubt, were that as the domestic fire was brought into operation so the atmospheric conditions deteriorated. The one common factor throughout the year was the factories which were in operation at all times with the exception of the short holiday periods. The varying factor was the domestic fire, and as this came into more use during the winter periods the deterioration in the atmospheric conditions was shown at the smoke recording station.

Details of the records from the recording station from July to December are set out in the following table:-

Month	Deposit Gauge					Smoke			Sulphur Dioxide		
	pH	R	UD	DD	TS	MA	HDA	LDA	MA	HDA	LDA
July	3.9	2.5	8.1	5.3	13.4	7	15	3	2.1	5.4	.7
August	4.9	.6	5.1	2.7	7.8	7	14	2	1.8	3.5	.6
September	5.1	.2	9.5	3.6	13.1	17	37	9	3.5	7.2	1.3
October	4.2	4.2	16.1	9.5	25.6	21	70	6	4.3	12.3	.5
November	3.9	4.0	7.9	7.9	15.8	30	83	5	4.1	16.3	.6
December	3.9	4.5	8.5	9.8	18.3	30	62	10	3.5	11.3	.6

Explanation of Table:

- pH - Figure of acidity or alkalinity (below 7 acid, above 7 alkali)
- R - Rainwater collected as inches per month.
- UD - Undissolved deposit, as rate of deposition in tons per sq. mile per month.
- DD - Dissolved deposit, as rate of deposition in tons per sq. mile per month.
- TS - Total solids, dissolved and undissolved.
- MA - Monthly average, which is the mean of the "daily average" figures for all periods in which observations are made in the period under review.
- HDA - Highest daily average.
- LDA - Lowest daily average.

The figures for smoke concentration are given in mg/100 cu.m.

The figures for sulphur dioxide are given in p.p.100 m.

Industrial Furnace Survey

It has been suggested that the pollution of the atmosphere is not a domestic but an industrial problem. This is by reason of the fact that many of our ratepayers compare the very small quantity of smoke emitted from their domestic chimney against the smoke belching forth from the factory chimney from time to time, and from this comparison an obvious conclusion is drawn.

Within the Urban District of Sowerby Bridge are some 6,700 houses. There are many offices and workshops with small heating installations operated for the most part on smokeless fuels, and there are 49 factories with large stone or metal chimney stacks. During the year these factories were asked to co-operate in completing a questionnaire, and many were also visited in order to obtain additional information.

Details of the industrial furnaces in operation in the district are as follows:-

1. Number of oil fired boilers	8
2. Number of boilers with mechanical stokers	27
3. Number of boilers with hand firing (coal)	8
4. Number of boilers with hand firing (coke)	6

At the end of the year, as a result of visits and correspondence and the assistance which was given by the many fuel organisations both solid and liquid, a large number of the industrialists (especially those using hand firing) were seriously considering the overhaul or renewal of their stoking arrangements.

During the year 30 smoke observations of factory chimneys were taken, and of these 12 emitted smoke in excess of the permitted quantity as laid down in the Memorandum made under the Clean Air Act.

HOUSING

The inspection of housing in the district has continued, together with the investigation into the housing complaints both under the Public Health and Housing Acts.

The majority of the families from the 9 clearance areas made during 1958 were re-housed, but unfortunately due to the large number of bungalows required to re-house the families, the re-housing was not complete by the end of the year and accordingly the demolition of the property had not been started.

There are difficulties in trying to re-house families from small clearance areas, mainly by reason of the fact that it is not always possible to build to the requirements of these families. With an ageing population, and with a large number of persons requiring bungalows or small flats, it does become increasingly difficult to cater on a small scale for the families displaced in such clearance areas. The position will, however, be greatly eased when it is found possible to start work on some of the larger areas where an opportunity will be presented to build for the requirements of these areas.

Slum clearance has continued during the year, 6 areas being declared. These are as follows:-

South Ward (No. 1) Clearance Order, 1959	13 houses
East Ward (No. 2) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1959	8 houses
Luddenden Foot Ward (No. 3) Clearance Order, 1959	3 houses
Sowerby Ward (No. 4) Clearance Order, 1959	8 houses
Sowerby Ward (No. 5) Clearance Order, 1959	2 houses
Sowerby Ward (No. 6) Clearance Order, 1959	7 houses

There were no objections made to these Orders, which were confirmed in their entirety and without modification.

The inspection of overcrowding has continued during the year, many families having decrowded the houses, having obtained alternative accommodation. Other overcrowding has been abated, firstly by the re-housing by the Local Authority, and secondly by the reduction in the family. The number on the register at the year end is 14, which includes 5 new cases. The number of cases abated during the year was 6.

The work under the Rent Act, 1957 continues, as a result of which 1 Certificate of Disrepair was granted, 12 were cancelled and 4 Undertakings were given by owners to Local Authorities to execute the necessary repairs.

The housing statistics for 1959 are set out in the following table:-

1.	Approximate number of dwellinghouses in the district	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,767
2.	Number of houses included in above											
	(a) Back-to-back	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,270
	(b) Single back	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	167
3.	Houses in Clearance Areas and Unfit Houses elsewhere											
	(1) Number of houses included in Representations made during the year											
	(a) in Clearance Areas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
	(b) individual unfit houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
	(2) Clearance Areas											
	(a) Houses demolished	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
	(b) Number of Persons displaced	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
	(c) Number of Families displaced	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
	(3) Unfit Houses closed under Sections 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1), Housing Act, 1957											
	(a) Number	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
	(b) Number of Persons displaced	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
	(c) Number of Families displaced	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
	(4) Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied											
	After informal action by Local Authority											
	By Owner	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	132
	By Local Authority	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
	After formal notice under Public Health Acts											
	By Owner	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
	By Local Authority	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17

4. Number of families re-housed during the year into Council Houses

(a) Clearance Areas, etc.	28
(b) Overcrowding	6

5. Rent Act, 1957

(a) Number of certificates of disrepair granted	1
(b) Number of undertakings to execute repairs given by owners to the local authority	4
(c) Number of certificates of disrepair cancelled	12

6. New Dwellings

Number of new dwellings completed during the year

By the Local Authority	31
By Private Enterprise	2

Table of Houses erected in the Urban District over the past 10 years:

Year	Houses Erected		Total
	By Local Authority	By Private Enterprise	
1950	22	-	22
1951	16	2	18
1952	12	-	12
1953	40	-	40
1954	58	-	58
1955	52	-	52
1956	28	-	28
1957	17	-	17
1958	-	-	-
1959	31	2	33
	276	4	280

7. Grants for conversion or improvement of housing accommodation

(a) Conversions

(1) Applications received (number of dwellings)	1
(2) Applications approved (number of dwellings)	1
(3) Number of dwellings completed	1

(b) Improvements

(1) Applications received (number of dwellings)	70
(2) Applications approved (number of dwellings)	63
(3) Number of dwellings completed	38

8. Details of advances for the purpose of acquiring or constructing houses

The Council operate the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, and during the year 13 applications were made, and 6 granted.
1 application was made for improvement, and this was authorised.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Distribution

During the year the following licences were issued under the various Milk and Dairies Regulations:-

Supplementary Licences to Retail Pasteurised Milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Supplementary Licences to Retail Tuberculin Tested Milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Supplementary Licences to Retail T.T./Pasteurised Milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Supplementary Licences to Retail Sterilised Milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Dealer's Licence to use the designation Pasteurised	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Dealer's Licence to use the designation Tuberculin Tested	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Dealer's Licence to use the designation T.T./Pasteurised	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Dealer's Licence to use the designation Sterilised	..	..	..	..	..	..	36

Milk Sampling

During the year 19 samples of milk were obtained, 8 of the samples being Tuberculin Tested milk, and the remainder was heat treated, 3 of these samples being Sterilised milk. All the samples were completely satisfactory.

Food Inspection

The inspection of all food shops throughout the district has been carried out, details of which are set out in the following table:-

Butchers' shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Butchers' stalls	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30
Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Dairies and Milk Distributors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Fishmongers and Poulterers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Food Hygiene Regulations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Food Preparing Establishments	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6

Ice Cream Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Market Stalls	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	157
Meat Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	143
Mobile Traders	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
													<hr/> 438 <hr/>

The inspection of food shops has been completed and further improvements have been carried out under the Food Hygiene Regulations. The improvement of the Butchers' Shops and the Bakehouses has been maintained, and these are extremely satisfactory. As additional applications come forward for Ice Cream registrations, these shops are also being brought up to date. It was not found necessary to serve formal notice in any instance, and the work without exception has been carried out in an informal manner. Work under the Food Hygiene Regulations will continue until all the shops have been adequately covered.

As a result of the inspections of the food shops, the following food has been surrendered as unfit for human consumption:-

								Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Meat	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	5	1	2	6
Fruit	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			3	22	5
Fish	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			3	19	13
Figs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			2	-	-
Bacon	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			1	26	-
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			3	6	-
Vegetables	..	..	..	..	..	..	..				27	15
Sausages	..	..	..	..	..	..	..				9	8
Cereal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..				6	4
Soup	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					10
Bournvita	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					4
								<hr/> 8	<hr/> 9	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 9	<hr/> 1 <hr/>

Meat Inspection

Meat inspection has continued throughout the year at the two private slaughterhouses within the district. All animals slaughtered have been examined, but these only cater for a small part of the requirements of the area. The majority of the meat consumed within the Urban District is slaughtered at the Halifax Abattoir.

Details of the meat inspection are set out in the following table:-

	Cows	Cattle other than Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number slaughtered	2	238	8	885	176
Number inspected	2	238	8	885	176
All diseases except Tuberculosis:-					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	1	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	21	-	-	2
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ..	-	8.82%	12.5%	-	1.13%
Tuberculosis only:-					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	8	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	3.36%	-	-	-
Cysticercosis:-					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	1	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	1	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	0.42%	-	-	-

During the latter part of the year, due to the indisposition of the Hebden Royd Public Health Inspector, meat inspection was carried out in this area. During the time in question 37 visits were made to the public abattoir and the following animals inspected:- 139 beasts, 36 cows, 223 pigs and 542 sheep.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

Licences have been issued to 11 slaughtermen within the Urban District, under the above Act.

Ice Cream

There are no manufacturers of Ice Cream within this area, all the shops retailing wrapped ice cream. There is an ever increasing number of mobile vans touring the district, but these are satisfactory and are registered under the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, in this respect.

During the year 12 visits have been made to the retailers in the district, and 12 samples of ice cream were taken, all of which were found to be satisfactory.

There are 58 establishments retailing Ice Cream within the Urban District.

Food Hawkers

At the present time there are 28 food hawkers on the register, which is kept under the provisions of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951. Details of the registrations are as follows:-

11 dealing in Bread and Confectionery
8 dealing in Greengrocery, including Fish
7 dealing in Ice Cream
2 dealing in General Foodstuffs

GENERAL ITEMS

Petroleum Acts and Orders

Routine inspection of all the petrol stations and all the petroleum installations was made prior to the issuing of any licences. A considerable number of contraventions were observed, mainly in relation to ventilating pipes, the lack of fire prevention facilities and necessary notices under the Act. 27 inspections were made by the Department, and further detailed inspections were carried out by the Fire Service.

At the commencement of the year the following licences were issued:-

Storage of Petroleum	37
Storage of Cellulose Paint and Petroleum Mixtures	4
Storage of Carbide of Calcium	2

Rodent Control

The work of rodent control is still carried out by a part-time operative, and a considerable amount of time is devoted to this work by the Inspectors.

During the year 126 dwellinghouses, 68 business premises and 19 Local Authority properties have been inspected and treated. All these infestations were of a minor nature. The number of visits made to the premises in question were 647. This does not include any work in connection with sewer baiting.

The dwellinghouses in the district continue to be treated free of charge, whilst the business premises and factories are charged at a rate depending upon the length of time devoted to the work, and the amount of material used. The service is appreciated by the householders, and also the factory managers where complete disinfestation has resulted.

Details of the treatments during the year are set out below:-

Refuse Disposal Site	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Salvage Depot	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Recreation Grounds	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Market .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Private Dwellings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	102
Business Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	81
Farms .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4

